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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/882,659	06/15/2001	Anders Tommy Linden	31039/234366	8512

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EXAMINER

HUG, ERIC J

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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1731

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DATE MAILED: 10/08/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/882,659

Applicant(s)

LINDEN, ANDERS TOMMY

Examiner

Eric Hug

Art Unit

1731

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 20 December 2002.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 18-23, 39 and 40 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 18-21, 39 and 40 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 22 and 23 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 15 June 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ 6) ☐ Other:

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claim 22 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Linkletter (US 4,087,319). Linkletter discloses a means for transferring a tissue web from a Yankee dryer and creper to a reel spool for winding the web into a roll. The tissue web is received on an endless conveyor fabric at a point adjacent to the creping doctor and conveyed continuously to the reel spool. The conveyor belt is guided by guide rolls 15 and 17 and by reel drum 21 which acts as a guide roll at the portion of the belt adjacent to the reel spool. The belt and conveyed web travel between a nip formed by the reel drum and the reel spool. Therefore the apparatus comprises a Yankee dryer, a creped web, a rotatably driven reel spool downstream and proximate to the dryer, and an endless conveyor belt running between guide rolls adjacent to the dryer and the reel spool, whereby the web is continuously supported upon the conveyor belt from dryer to reel.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claim 23 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Linkletter in view of Rugowski (US 5,593,545). Linkletter discloses the tissue transfer means described above for continuously conveying a tissue web from a Yankee dryer and creper to a reel spool. Linkletter discloses that the endless conveyor is permeable to air (column 2, lines 43-45). However, Linkletter does not place a device within the belt loop of the conveyor for creating an underpressure. Rugowski discloses using an air foil (30) in the loop of a conveyor belt that continuously transports a tissue web to a reel drum. The air foil creates an underpressure within the loop, aiding the adherence of the web to the conveyor belt. Rugowski explains that the choice of whether or not to use the air foil depends on the permeability of the fabric. Fabrics with high air permeability are best suited for use of an air foil. Therefore, since the conveyor belt of Linkletter is sufficiently porous for the passage of air, then at the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art to place an air foil within the belt loop of Linkletter to enhance the attraction of the web to the conveyor belt as the web is being transferred to the reel spool.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 18-21 and 39-40 are allowed.

The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

Claims 18-21 are allowed, because the prior art does not disclose or suggest a dry end of a papermaking machine comprising a Yankee dryer, a rotatably driven reel spool proximate to the dryer, and a winding support belt stretched between a pair of guide rolls, whereby the support belt supports the reel spool and paper roll wound thereon and forms a nip with the roll.

Claims 39 and 40 are allowed, because the prior art also does not disclose or suggest a papermachine comprising a web forming section, a drying section with at least one through-air dryer (TAD), a reel spool, and a TAD fabric which conveys the web about the dryer and which forms a nip with the reel spool, whereby the paper web is conveyed by the TAD fabric towards the reel spool and is passed through the nip upon winding onto the spool.

The prior art discloses transfer belts which carry the web from the Yankee dryer to the reel and which form a nip with the reel, with the web being passed through the nip upon winding onto the reel. However, there is no teaching of supporting a reel located next to a Yankee dryer with an endless support belt extending between two guide rolls. Also there is no teaching of conveying a web from a through-dryer to the reel spool directly on the TAD fabric. Prior art means utilize intermediate transfer belts or reel drums to transfer the web from the TAD fabric to the reel.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 22 and 23 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection. It is acknowledged that all the claims read over the prior art of record cited in the previous Office action.

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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Eric Hug whose telephone number is 703 308-1980. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday, 9:00 AM to 6:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Steven Griffin can be reached on 703 308-1164. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703 872-9310 for regular communications and 703 872-9311 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703 308-0651.



jeh
January 24, 2003


STEVEN P. GRIFFIN
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 1700